

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-9 are pending.

It is noted with appreciation that claims 1, 3, 5, and 8-9 are allowed.

Claims 2, 4, and 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for allegedly being anticipated by Kikuchi, U.S. Patent No. 6,606,715.

The claims have been amended to more clearly recite the subject matter of the present invention. In particular, claims 1-5 have been amended to recite “storage system” instead of “storage subsystem”. No new matter is believed to have been added by this amendment of claims 1-5.

As to the Section 102 rejection of claims 2, 4, and 6-7, independent claim 2 has been amended to more clearly recite a salient aspect of the present invention, and incorporates subject matter that is similarly recited in the allowed claims. The present invention is directed to a storage system. According to the present invention, user data can be transferred between the cache memory and a disk drive based on instructions received from a host computer that is connected to the storage system.

Accordingly, claim 2 has been amended to recite that user data “on the at least one disk drive is stored to the cache memory in response to a first instruction from the host computer.” Further the user data can be “removed from the cache memory and stored to the at least one disk drive in response to a second instruction from the host computer.”

Kikuchi describes storing “forming state” information in a cache memory to facilitate recovery from an interruption during a block transfer. *Abstract*. Kikuchi, however, does not disclose transferring data between cache and a disk drive in response to instructions received from a host computer, which are neither read instructions nor write instructions.

Appl. No. 09/591,104  
Amdt. sent October 19, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of July 6, 2004

PATENT

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



George B. F. Yee  
Reg. No. 37,478

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 650-326-2400  
Fax: 415-576-0300  
GBFY:cmm  
60267135 v1